

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:	Flanagan
Application No.:	09/654,987
Filed:	September 5, 2000
For:	Method of Applying a Laser Beam Around the Circumference of a Catheter
Examiner:	Sam Chaun Cua Yao
Group Art Unit:	1733

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No: S63.2-8765

AMENDMENT

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated March 3, 2003. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is submitted herewith the Amendment to amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please add the following new claims:

3840 (New) A process for sealing at least one polymeric material to a polymeric catheter tube, comprising the steps of:

over-lapping a portion of the at least one polymeric material with a portion of the polymeric catheter tube thereby creating an over-lapped portion, the polymeric catheter tube having a longitudinal axis;

generating a first beam of electromagnetic energy which is substantially annular, the electromagnetic energy substantially continuous in the annular direction, the electromagnetic energy at least partially absorbable by at least one of the polymeric material and the polymeric catheter tube at a selected energy wavelength;

controllably redirecting the first beam of electromagnetic energy such that it converges onto the polymeric material at an over-lapped portion circumscribing the catheter tube to at least